

the blunting member being axially moveable from a non-blunting position wherein the blunt distal tip of the blunting member is positioned within the bore of the needle a spaced distance proximal to the sharpened distal tip of the needle, to a distally advanced blunting position wherein the blunt distal tip of the blunting member protrudes out of and beyond the sharpened distal tip of the needle; and

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a porous member which is coupled to the housing, and having a porosity that ranges from about 35% to about 55%.

2. 15. (Amended) The catheter unit of claim 14, further comprising:

a lumen in the blunting member for blood to flow which extends longitudinally through the blunting member, the lumen in communication with the flash chamber; and

the assembly being thereby operative such that when the distal end of the needle enters a vessel, such that fluid enters the bore of the needle and passes through the needle and then enters the lumen of the blunting member and exits the blunting member by entering the flash chamber, such that the presence of blood within the flash chamber is visible through at least a transparent portion of the flash chamber.

B2 5. 18. (New) The catheter unit of claim 14, wherein the porous member includes cotton high-density polyethylene or ultra high molecular weight polyethylene.

REMARKS

In response to the above-identified Office Action, Applicant amends the application and seeks reconsideration thereof. In this response, the Applicant amends claims 14 and 15. Applicant adds new claim 18. Accordingly, claims 14-18 are pending.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".